

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following paragraph(s) for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

A [[An]] pose estimation and comparison system has [[an]] a pose estimation and comparison unit [[((20))]]. The pose estimation and comparison unit [[((20))]] has an pose candidate decision unit [[((30))]] which decides an pose candidate. According to the generated pose candidate, a comparison image generation unit [[((40))]] generates a plurality of comparison images close to the input image, while projecting a three-dimensional object model obtained from a three-dimensional object model storage unit [[((45))]] to a two-dimensional image. A sharpness extraction unit [[((60))]] extracts a first sharpness amount reflecting the sharpness from each of the generated comparison images. A weighted difference calculator [[((50))]] calculates a plurality of weighted differences by weighting the first sharpness amount to the difference between the input image and each of the comparison images. A determination unit [[((52))]] selects a comparison image having the smallest weighted difference as the comparison image closest to the input image, thereby performing the pose estimation and comparison.